

A P P E N D I X I:

CLAIM AMENDMENTS:

Cancel Claims 17 to 23, 25 and 33 as indicated in the following listing of the claims:

1. (*previously presented*) A process for producing an oral dosage form with sustained release of active ingredient, wherein the dosage form comprises
 - a) a formulated mixture of polyvinyl acetate and polyvinylpyrrolidone which acts as a binder and a matrix former, and wherein
the polyvinylpyrrolidone has a molecular weight of from 20,000 to 1,000,000, and
the polyvinylpyrrolidone is finely dispersed in the polyvinyl acetate,
 - b) at least one active ingredient,
 - c) optionally water-soluble polymers or low or high molecular weight lipophilic additives,
 - d) and, optionally, excipients,wherein the process comprises granulating a mixture of a) to d) or a) to c) or a) and b) and d) or a) and b) by heating to a temperature of from 40°C to 130°C in the absence of solvents.
2. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyvinyl acetate to polyvinylpyrrolidone ratio is 6:4 to 9:1.
3. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the active ingredient : water-soluble polymers or low or high molecular weight lipophilic additives ratio employed is from 5:95 to 85:15.
4. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein polyvinyl acetate and polyvinylpyrrolidone each have a molecular weight of from 20,000 to 1,000,000.
5. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mixture is granulated by heating to from 45 to 100°C.
6. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the particle size of the active ingredients employed is in a range from 20 to 700 μm .

7. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the excipients employed are fillers, disintegrants and adsorbents, lubricants, flowability agents, dyes, stabilizers, antioxidants, wetting agents, preservatives, release agents, flavorings or sweeteners.
8. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein fillers selected from the group consisting of lactose, cellulose powder, mannitol, calcium diphosphate and starch are employed as excipients.
9. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the granules can be produced by employing the process of mixer granulation, fluidized bed granulation or extrusion granulation.
10. - 11. (*canceled*)
12. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein besides the formulated mixture of polyvinyl acetate and polyvinylpyrrolidone, further release-sustaining excipients may optionally be employed before, during or after the granulation.
13. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein water-soluble, water-soluble highly swelling or lipophilic excipients are employed for further modification of release.
14. - 15. (*canceled*)
16. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the water-soluble polymers are selected from the group consisting of: polyvinyl alcohols, polyethylene glycols, polyoxyethylene/polyoxypropylene block copolymers, polyvinylpyrrolidones, vinyl acetate/vinyl pyrrolidone copolymers, polyethylene glycols, polyvinylpyrrolidones, vinyl acetate/vinylpyrrolidone copolymers, maltodextrins, and salts thereof.
17. - 26. (*canceled*)
27. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the production is either continuously or batchwise.
28. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the granulated mixture is further processed by forced screening of the granules in the hot state or in the cooled state.

29. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the water-soluble polymers are selected from the group consisting of alginates, pectins, galactomannans, carrageenans, dextran, curdlan, pullulan, gellan, chitin, gelatin, xanthans, hemicelluloses, cellulose derivatives, starch derivatives, maltodextrins, polyacrylic acid, polymethacrylic acid, acrylic acid/methacrylic acid copolymers, polyvinyl alcohols, high molecular weight polyethylene glycols, polyoxyethylene/polyoxypropylene block copolymers and high molecular weight polyvinylpyrrolidones.
30. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 29, wherein the cellulose derivatives are selected from the group consisting of methylcellulose, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose, hydroxypropylcellulose, hydroxyethylcellulose and carboxymethylcellulose; and the starch derivatives are selected from the group consisting of carboxymethylstarch and degraded starch.
31. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 1, wherein the lipophilic substances are selected from the group consisting of fatty alcohols, fatty acids, glycerides, fatty acid esters, fatty alcohol esters and lipophilic polymers.
32. (*previously presented*) A process as claimed in claim 31, wherein the fatty alcohol is stearyl alcohol; the fatty acid is stearic acid; and the lipophilic polymers are selected from the group consisting of ethylcellulose, cellulose acetate, acrylic ester/methacrylic ester copolymers, methacrylic acid/acrylic ester copolymers, cellulose acetate phthalate, cellulose acetate succinate, hydroxypropylmethylcellulose acetate phthalate and hydroxypropylmethylcellulose acetate succinate.
33. (*canceled*)